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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®

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**MARVEL'S TV
SENSATION!**

**BLINDED BY THE
MASKED MARAUDER,
SPIDER-MAN PLUNGES
TO HIS DOOM!**



**...TO
DIE IN
DARKNESS!**



While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

**BOISTEROUS
BILL MANTLO**
WRITER

**GENTLEMAN
JIM MOONEY**
PENCILER

**FEARLESS
FRANK SPRINGER**
INKER

**JO (COOL)
DUFFY**
EDITOR

**JIM (TROUBLE)
SHOOTER**
ED-IN-CHIEF

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, HAS FACED MORE CRISES IN HIS YOUTHFUL CAREER THAN MOST MEN ENCOUNTER IN A LIFETIME...

THAT BLAST
HITTING MY
EYES! I-I
CAN'T SEE!
I'M BLIND!!

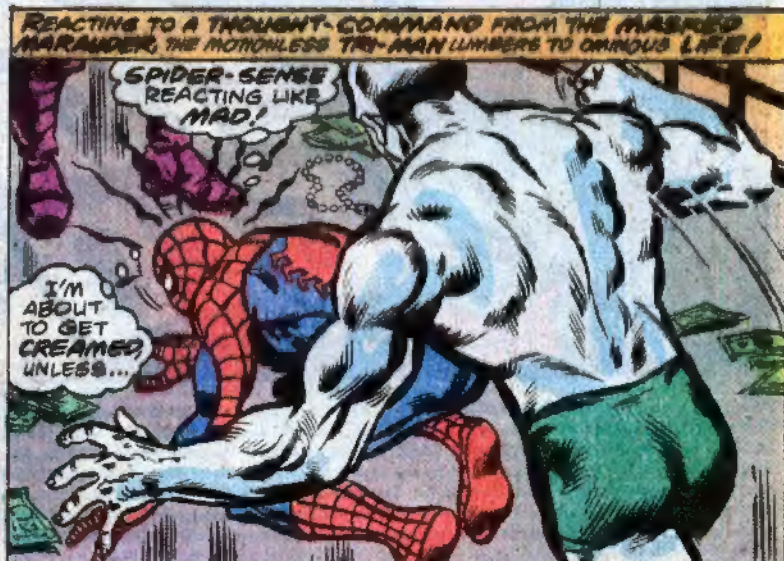
BUT NONE MORE
IMMEDIATELY
DEVASTATING
THAN THIS!

THE OPT-BLASTS OF THE
MASKED MARAUDER WILL
INSURE THAT YOU NEVER
INTERFERE WITH THE
MAGGIA AGAIN,
SPIDER-MAN!

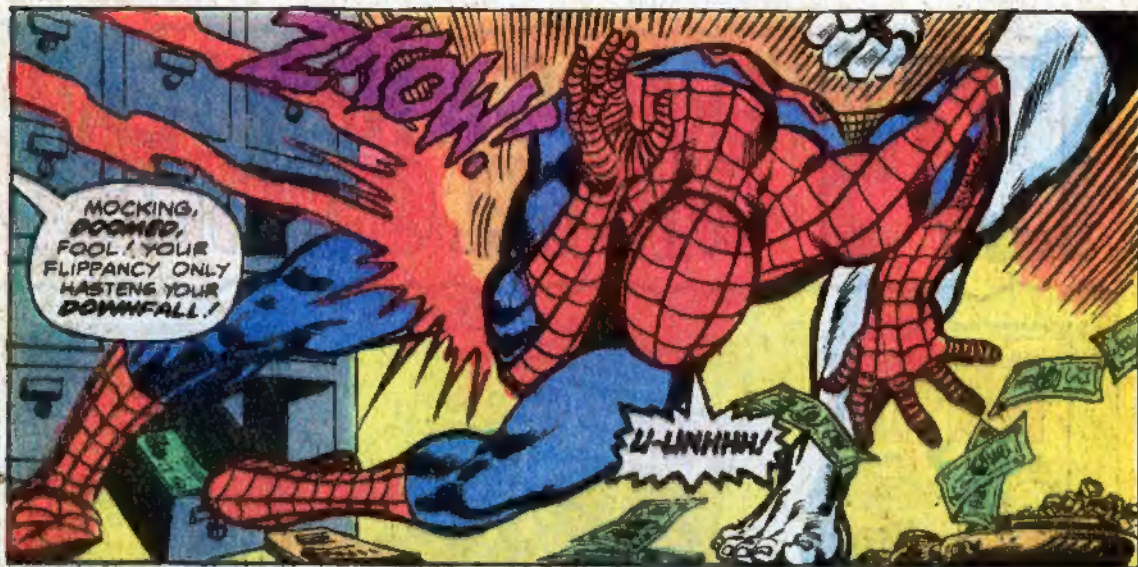
**MINE
EYES HAVE
SEEN THE
GLORY**

RICK PARKER
LETTERS
KAREN RAINES
COLORS

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BLIND HE IS OF NO FURTHER CONSEQUENCE TO US! LEAVE HIM!

J-JUST KEEP TALKING, MASK-MUG! I DON'T NEED TO SEE YOU---



--TO FLIP A SPIDER-TRACER IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR VOICE!



AND, OUTSIDE THE CITICORP BUILDING...

HOLD IT RIGHT... HOLY CROW-- THE MASKED MARAUDER!

IF HE'S BACK IN ACTION-- WE GOT TROUBLE!

MORE THAN YOU DREAM! GO, MY TRI-MAN-- --TAKE THEM!

NEW YORK'S FINEST STARE IN DISBELIEF AS THE HUGE ANDROID BEGINS TO CHANGE...



...FROM ITS HUMANOID SHAPE TO THAT OF A LIGHTNING-SWIFT BIRDROID ATTACK UNIT!



THE REST OF YOU-- COME!

FOR THE LUVVA MIKE-- LOOK OUT, MEN!

WHILE, IN THE RANSACKED SAFE DEPOSIT VAULT...

C-CAN'T SEE... CAN BARELY STAND ON MY BAD ANKLE!



BUT I CAN'T LET THE MARAUDER MASSACRE THE POLICE!

BUT IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY, GIVEN OUR WEB-SPINNER'S PRESENT CONDITION, THAT HE WILL BE IN TIME TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE SITUATION OUTSIDE!

FOR GOD'S SAKE--KEEP YOUR HEADS DOWN!

VREEEEEE!

THE MARAUDER AND HIS MEN ARE ALL IN THE VAN, SERGEANT!

INTO YOUR CARS, MEN! AFTER 'EM!

I DON'T THINK THAT'LL BE POSSIBLE, SIR--

...UNLESS THEY MAKE PATROL CARS WITH WINGS!!

THE PATROLMAN'S MEANING BECOMES IMMEDIATELY CLEAR!

FROM WITHIN THE VAN A HYDRAULIC HOIST RISES SKYWARD TOWARDS A WAITING HELICOPTER, AND RIDING A COLUMN OF PRESSURIZED AIR...

...THE LEADER OF THE MAGGIA MAKES GOOD HIS ESCAPE!

PUT UP YOUR GUNS, MEN! WE CAN'T HIT 'EM FROM HERE!

HE MADE FOOLS OF US-- FOOLS!

YEAH-- BUT WE AIN'T REPORTIN' BACK EMPTY-HANDED!

WE'VE LOST THE MARAUDER-- BUT WE'VE CAUGHT SPIDER-MAN!

H-HUN?!

I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THE MARAUDER'S GONE... AND THIS COP IS GONNA RUN ME IN OUT OF FRUSTRATION!

DON'T MAKE A MOVE I DON'T LIKE, WALL-CRAWLER!

SORRY, OFFICER! WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE--

--BUT I DON'T HAVE ALL NIGHT TO CONVINCE YOU OF THAT!

LOOK OUT FOR HIS WEBBING!

IT'S COVERING US LIKE A NET!

PTOW!

THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR! SPINNING IT OUT BLINDLY I COULDN'T BE SURE...!

MAYBE BY THE TIME IT DISSOLVES THE COPS'LL FORGET ABOUT ME--

--AND GET AFTER THE REAL CRIMINAL... THE MARAUDER! CAN'T COUNT ON THAT, THOUGH!

FEELS LIKE I'VE FALLEN INTO A CANOPY! G-GOT TO SHOOT MY WEBBING UPWARDS!

THWIP!

"HOPE IT ADHERES TO SOME THING!"

THWAP!



THIS IS LIKE A BAD DREAM. I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY CLEARED MY NAME WITH THE POLICE,* AND NOW THEY'VE FOUND SOMETHING ELSE TO BLAME ME FOR.

AND UNTIL THEY PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER, THEY'LL BE HUNTING ME WHILE THE MARAUDER GOES FREE!

THANK GOD! MY WEBBING'S CAUGHT ON SOMETHING

BRAK!
PTOW!

I DON'T GET IT. HEADQUARTERS JUST SENT WORD DOWN THAT SPIDER-MAN ISN'T A CRIMINAL, AND NOW...

HE'S GETTING AWAY!

*SEE CURRENT ISSUES OF AMAZING SPIDER-MAN -- JO.



RELYING ON INSTINCT, SPIDER-MAN GAINS THE RELATIVE SAFETY OF A BUILDING CORNICE!

O-OWW!
T-THIS IS INSANE!
I'M LOST IN THIS... DARKNESS!

SPEED!



I-I'VE GOT TO STOP--
THINK THIS THROUGH!

I'M FINISHED AS SPIDER-MAN! WHEN PETER PARKER SHOWS UP SIGHTLESS, MY SECRET WILL BE REVEALED!

THE MARAUDER DID THIS TO ME! WITH OR WITHOUT MY VISION, I'LL GET HIM-- I SWEAR IT!

BUT FIRST-- GOT TO REST! THEN FOLLOW SIGNAL FROM MY SPIDER-TRACER...

WEAK, HUNGB... AFRAID, SPIDEY LEANS BACK INTO THE SHELTER OF THE LEDGE. HE DOES NOT SEE THE RISING OF THE MORNING SUN!

WHILE, ELSEWHERE IN THE BIG APPLE, LIFE GOES ON AS USUAL...

...MORE OR LESS!

C. DEPT. OF SANITATION

PETER WAS SUPPOSED TO CALL ME LAST NIGHT-- BUT HE NEVER DID!

I WONDER IF ANYTHINGS... SAY! ISN'T THAT MARY JANE WATSON?

I'VE FELT AWFUL EVER SINCE RUNNING INTO PETER AT THAT DISCO THE OTHER NIGHT! *

* SEE PAGES 24--30.

BUT IT WAS MY DECISION TO COOL OUR RELATIONSHIP-- SO WHY SHOULD I BE UPSET AT SEEING HIM WITH ANOTHER WOMAN...?

OH-- EXCUSE ME!

WHY-- BETTY LEEDS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

AT PETER'S APARTMENT? THE SAME THING YOU ARE, I WOULD IMAGINE!

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, MRS. LEEDS?

THAT WE'RE BOTH... FOND... OF PETER? I-- I GUESS WE'RE COMPETITORS!

THEN YER WASTIN' YER TIME, LADIES! PARKER AIN'T BEEN HOME ALL NIGHT!

THAT'S ALRIGHT, MRS. MUGGING-- I HAVE A KEY! I'LL LET MYSELF IN...!

HRMMPHH!

SO YOU AND PETEY ARE THAT TIGHT ALREADY, HUH?

N-NO, NOT REALLY... I MEAN-- YES, WE ARE!

YOU DON'T SOUND SO SURE, SWEETHEART. MAYBE YOU'RE LETTING YOUR IMAGINATION FILL IN THE BLANKS IN REALITY!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, MARY JANE!

CLICK

NO? DID PETER TELL YOU HE ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM?

AS MARY JANE'S KEY TURNS IN THE LOCK... DEATH-- IN THE GUISE OF CARRION-- AWAITS WITHIN PETER PARKER'S APARTMENT!

MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE THE CITY'S STREETS...

I-I D HOPED REST WOULD IMPROVE THINGS-- BUT I'M STILL BLIND!



AND MY SPRAINED ANKLE ISN'T HELPING!

STILL CAN'T PUT ANY WEIGHT ON IT!

BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF IT! I'VE GOTTA KEEP ON THE MOVE--KEEP GOING! I'M AFRAID IF I STOP, THE SHOCK WILL SET IN...

...THE SHOCK OF BEING SIGHT-LESS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!

EH? WHAT'S THAT FROM BELOW...?



I'VE GOT TO GET HOME-- THINK THIS THROUGH, BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHICH DIRECTION TO GO!



SOUNDS LIKE A POLICE RADIO! MY WORST FEARS HAVE BEEN REALIZED! THEY ARE SEARCHING FOR ME!

Y'HEAR THAT, PARTNER? LET'S GO!

ALL POINTS ALERT FOR SPIDER-MAN-- SUSPECT IN THE ROBBERY OF THE CITICORP BUILDING EARLIER THIS MORNING

WREEEEEE

WATCH THE INCREDIBLE HULK ON CBS-TV

WOW! DO YOU THINK SPIDER-MAN'S A CRIMINAL?

WHO CARES? IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.

THANKFULLY MISSING THOSE COMFORTING WORDS, OUR WEB-SLINGER INCHES HIS WAY ONWARDS!

WHILE, IN ANOTHER
SECTION OF THE CITY

DESPITE
WHAT THE
POLICE
BULLETINS
SAY--



AND, IN A TENEMENT
APARTMENT IN THE
SOUTH BRONX...



¡A CASA--
POR FIN *!

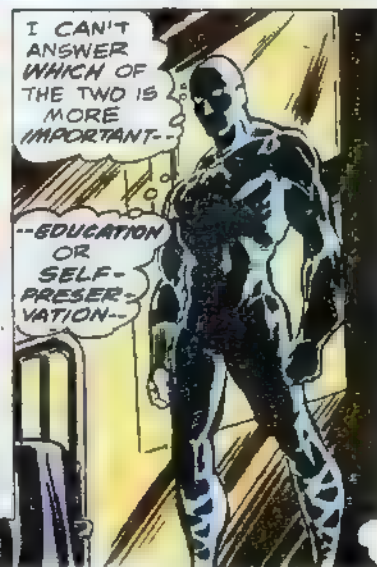
*SPANISH TO ENGLISH--
HOME, AT LAST!
--TRANSLATOR JO.



I BLEW A NIGHT OF
STUDYING FOR
HECTOR AYALA'S
MID-TERMS--



--BUT THE
WHITE TIGER
CLEANSED THE NEIGHBORHOOD
OF A DRUG PUSHER!



I CAN'T
ANSWER
WHICH OF
THE TWO IS
MORE
IMPORTANT--

--EDUCATION
OR
SELF-
PRESER-
VATION--



--BUT I KNOW WHICH
MEANS MORE TO ME!

--SPIDER-MAN
IS NO MORE A
CRIMINAL THAN I
AM! IT'S TIME DARE-
DEVIL DID SOME
INVESTIGATING
ON HIS OWN!

¡BASTA! I AM STARTING TO SOUND LIKE MY PHILOSOPHY PROFESSOR! I MUST BE...HMMMM...TIRED...

WELCOME HOME, MY BROTHER

EH?!

AWILDA!

SO YOU CUT YOUR CLASSES LAST NIGHT TO PLAY SUPER-HERO!

DO YOU WANT TO BREAK MAMA'S HEART, ESTUPIDO?

AND YOUR SCHOLARSHIP--IT MEANS NADA TO YOU? HECTOR, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GROW UP?!

AND SO WE TAKE OUR LEAVE OF THE WHITE TIGER AND HIS RATHER UNUSUAL DOMESTIC SITUATION--

AND TURN OUR GAZE TO THE HALLOWED HALLS OF ACADEME...THE CENTRAL CAMPUS OF EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY!

ARE YOU AND HECTOR STILL SEEING EACH OTHER, HOLLY?

I'M AFRAID I PUT THE FREEZE ON THAT WHEN I COULDN'T ACCEPT HIS BEING THE WHITE TIGER, SHA SHAN!

HEY, LOVELY LADIES! WAIT UP!

MY-- IF IT ISN'T MY LATE LUNCHEON DATE... FLASH THOMPSON!

AW, SHA SHAN HONEY-- I'M SORRY! I WAS JUST LOOKIN' FOR PETE! YOU SEEN HIM?

NOPE ISN'T HE AWFUL LATE FOR CLASS BY NOW?

YOU BET! BOY, IF HE WANTS TO MAKE UP GYM AND GET INTO GRAD SCHOOL--

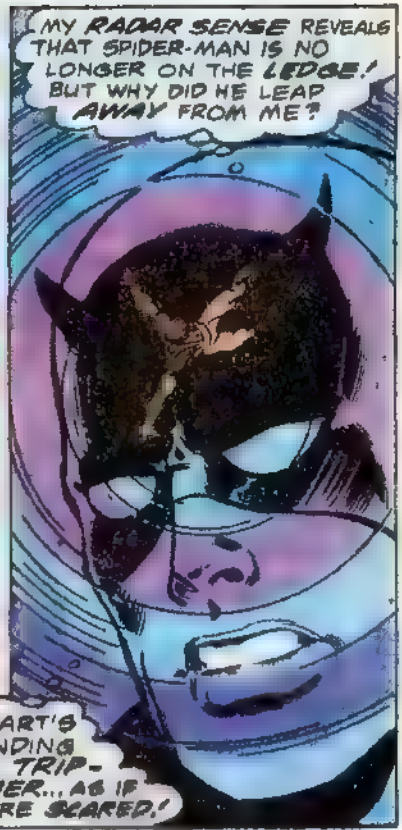
--HE SURE HAS A FUNNY WAY OF GOIN' ABOUT IT! AH, LET'S EAT! PETE'S A BIG BOY NOW--





WHAT IN BLAZES--?!

I-I'M FALLING!!



MY RADAR SENSE REVEALS THAT SPIDER-MAN IS NO LONGER ON THE LEDGE! BUT WHY DID HE LEAP AWAY FROM ME?

HIS HEART'S POUNDING LIKE A TRIP-HAMMER... AS IF HE WERE SCARED!

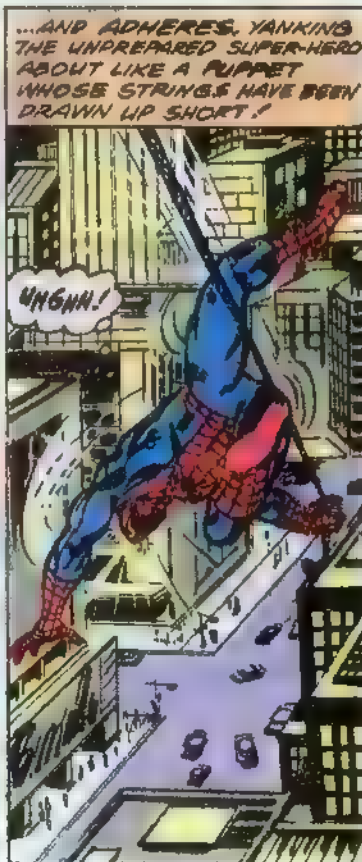


BUT WHY DOESN'T HE JUST USE HIS WEBBING TO SAVE HIMSELF?

THWIP!

CAN'T BE FAR DOWN TO THE STREET! GOD-- IF ONLY I COULD SEE TO AIM MY WEB-SHOOTERS.

BUT LONG EXPERIENCE ISN'T EASILY NEGATED-- NOT EVEN BY BLINDNESS! SPIDER-MAN'S WEBLINE FORTUITOUSLY STRIKES A LEDGE ABOVE..

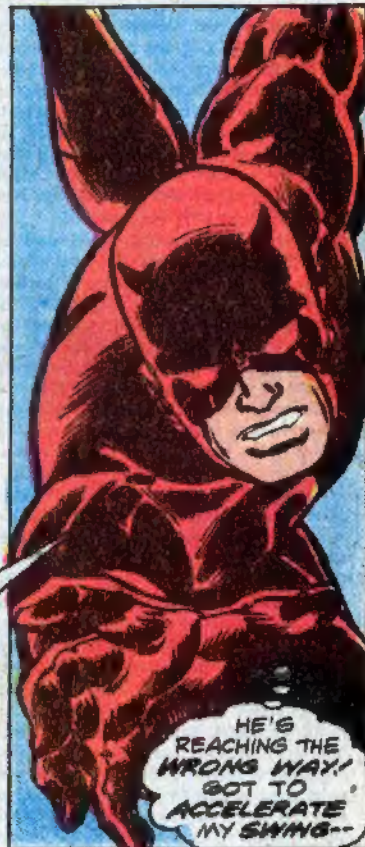
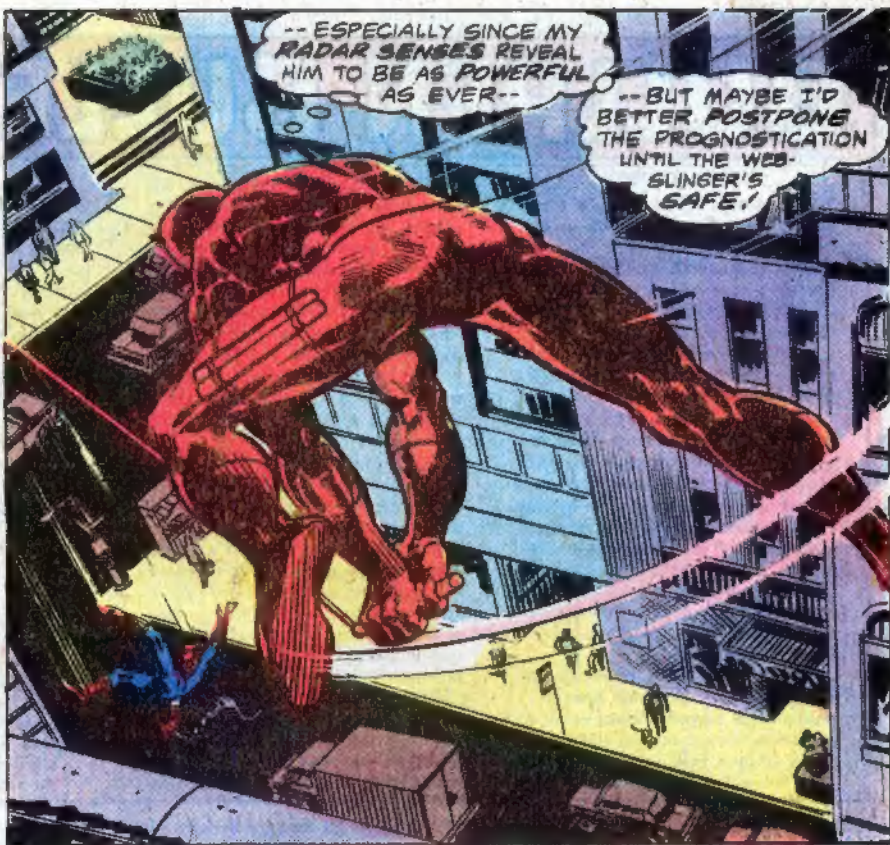


...AND ADHERES, YANKING THE UNPREPARED SUPER-HERO ABOUT LIKE A PUPPET WHOSE STRINGS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP SHORT!

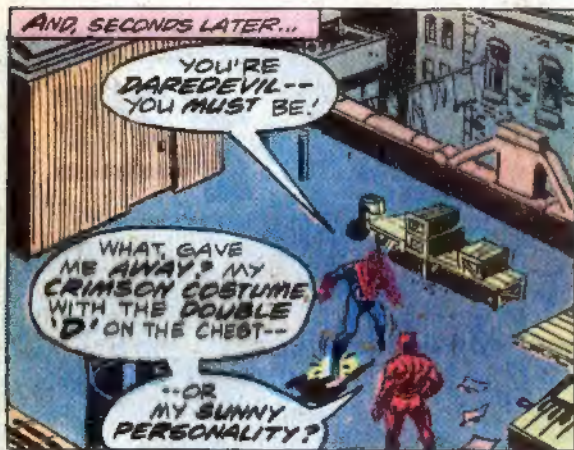
UHGHH!



BUT THE SUDDEN JARRING WEIGHT ALSO HAS ITS EFFECT ON THE CRUMBLING CORNICE!







NEXT ISSUE: IN SEARCH OF THE MASKED MARAUDER WITH--

THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND!

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

BOB HALL
EDITOR
MARY JO DUFFY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Well, well, well! Though the ghoulishly ghastly Carrion only makes a cameo appearance (this ish, our offer from last month's *Spectacular Spider-Mails* still goes!) An autographed No-Prize to the first True Believer who can guess Mr. C's sinister secret identity! We reveal it in PPTSS #29 (or maybe in PPTSS #30—it's so hard to remember!) but we're hoping that an astute pilgrim out there will come up with the answer first! Don't let us down, friends and fans—we've come to count on your awesome insight!

Now, on with the mail...

Dear Arachneidae-Homo sapien producers,

PPTSS #21 was a fairly good issue for a one-shot story. The art was okay, but the colorist really overdid Mary Jane's makeup. Now it's No-Prize time. You guys've turned me down in the past, but I've gotcha nailed now! On page 7, panel 6, Pete says, "...to her (Aunt May) before visiting hours." However, in *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN* #183, page 26, panel 3, Doctor Tompkins states that Aunt May can't have any visitors! Just in case you can squirm out of that one, I've got a backup No-Prize ready! Page 7, panel 7, the sign on the bus says #8 Broadway Line. Now, every true-blooded New Yorker knows there is no such bus! The #8 travels, for the most part, on Sixth Avenue. Gold fringes on that No-Prize, please!

Matthew Anton
110 West 86th Street
NYC, NY 10024

Sigh...it's on its way, Matt.

Hey guys,

These are the only words I'll say about PPTSS #21: There are none so blind as those who will not see!

Albert Eñen
315 3/4 S. Covrhan Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90036

And, almost cosmically coincidental, Al—you came close to pegging the very alternative title we'd planned for this very issue. (We switched to "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory..." only after a fan pointed out that Stan had used your quote in a classic issue of *DAREDEVIL* many years ago).

Dear Bill,

You've done it! You've proved that Spider-Man can actually fight! Usually what happens is that the villain beats on Spidey for a few panels, and then Spidey webs him. The villain says "ARRGH!" and is marched off to jail and life goes on as usual. But PPTSS #21 was super! Spidey beat the Scorpion legitimately. Good old fashioned jawboning—it was fantastic! Thanks for a great issue.

Joel D. Cochlin
7 Partridge Road
Lexington, MA 02173

Dear Marvel,

I would just like to say that PPTSS #21 was great and stupendous and beautiful and that there was one mistake: On page 1, you showed Scorpion's costume torn in a number of

places, but then, on page 19, it was shown without any tears. Now, maybe the Scorpion could've changed his torn costume, but the entire premise of your story was that he didn't even know he was wearing a costume! So how about a No-Prize? Plus, keep up the good work.

Jim Traver
1125 Lewis Street
Rossford, OH 93940

Sorry, Jim, but no No-Prize this time. When the Scorpion bathed in the beam of Dr. Smythe's rejuvenator, the rays reconstituted not only his own body cells, but the cellular makeup of his costume as well. So, though entering the beam hurting, he emerged physically and haberdashery whole.

Dear Bullpen,

PPTSS #21 was one of the greatest Spidey stories I've ever read. In fact, you can give yourselves No-Prizes for it. Anyway, here's two questions for you: (1) Did that booster the Scorpion gave himself on page 14 allow his mask to come off? (2) Is the Scorpion's tail a part of him or something mechanical?

Billy Cox
1234 Pinchot Place
NYC, NY 10401

(1) Nope. The Scorpion could've removed his mask at any time, but so great was his mania that he didn't realize he was wearing a mask. (See above letter for further details). (2) Something mechanical.

Dear Marvel,

PPTSS #21 is a masterpiece. Jim Mooney and Mike Esposito came through like champs—their artwork was simply outrageous, as was the story itself. Referring to events taking place in *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN*, i.e., Pete's proposing to Mary Jane and Spidey's hard hours fighting Rocket Racer, just bettered the tale.

It was also a pleasure to see Peter Parker in some of this story. It had begun to seem as if you'd forgotten the original purpose of this mag, which was to give up more of Pete and not as much Spidey. Another fine aspect of this issue was Hector Ayala and Holly's appearance. Hector's character is unique and shouldn't be pushed aside. By the way, what are the plans for the White Tiger? Is he going to get his own book, or will he be a regular character in PPTSS? (Or will he just be abandoned, which would be a downright shame?)

Bringing back the Scorpion was a great idea, too. It's been awhile since Spidey and he have had it out, but it was well worth the wait.

Mike Ferrero
Dogwood Hills
Newburgh, NY 12550

As we said in the lettercol to PPTSS #25, Mike—whether the White Tiger stays or goes is up to you, the readers. Let's hear from you, True Believers!

THE HULK!
NIGHTHAWK!
VALKYRIE!
and MARVEL'S
MIGHTIEST
GUEST-STARS...

EVERY MONTH IN



DEFENDERS

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED WITH THE MOST STARTLING NON-GROUP IN COMICS HISTORY!